

AN ORDINANCE

Councilmember Jim Maddox

An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to accept, on behalf of the City of Atlanta, the bronze Mertsalov palm from Miss Liliya Podkopayeva representing the Ukraine; to select a prominent place for its display; and for other purposes

WHEREAS, the bronze Mertsalov palm was cast in 1896 by Donetsk blacksmith Alexei Mertsalov for the All-Russia fair in Nizhny Novogorod where it won the highest award; and

WHEREAS, in 1900 the palm won the grand prix at the Paris World Exhibition. The palm is now kept at the Mining Institute in St. Petersburg; and

WHEREAS, the palm symbolizes the basic professions of Donbass -- a miner's, a metallurgist's and a blacksmith's. It is considered the symbol of Donbass industry and is a central element of the coat of arms of the Donetsk region; and

WHEREAS, it is usually given by the Ukrainian government as a gesture of goodwill and of camaraderie; and

WHEREAS, Miss Liliya Podkopayeva was born in Donetsk, Ukraine, on August 15, 1978. From as early as age 6, she has won many competitions. Her largest accomplishment, however was the winning of the gold medal in gymnastics at the Olympic Games in Atlanta. Liliya also won gold on her favourite event, floor, and a silver on the beam. She thereby became Ukraine's first multiple medal winner ever; and

WHEREAS, as a result of her achievements, Liliya has been honoured by the President of Ukraine, President Kuchma, and the Ukrainian Parliament as well as several other dignitaries; and

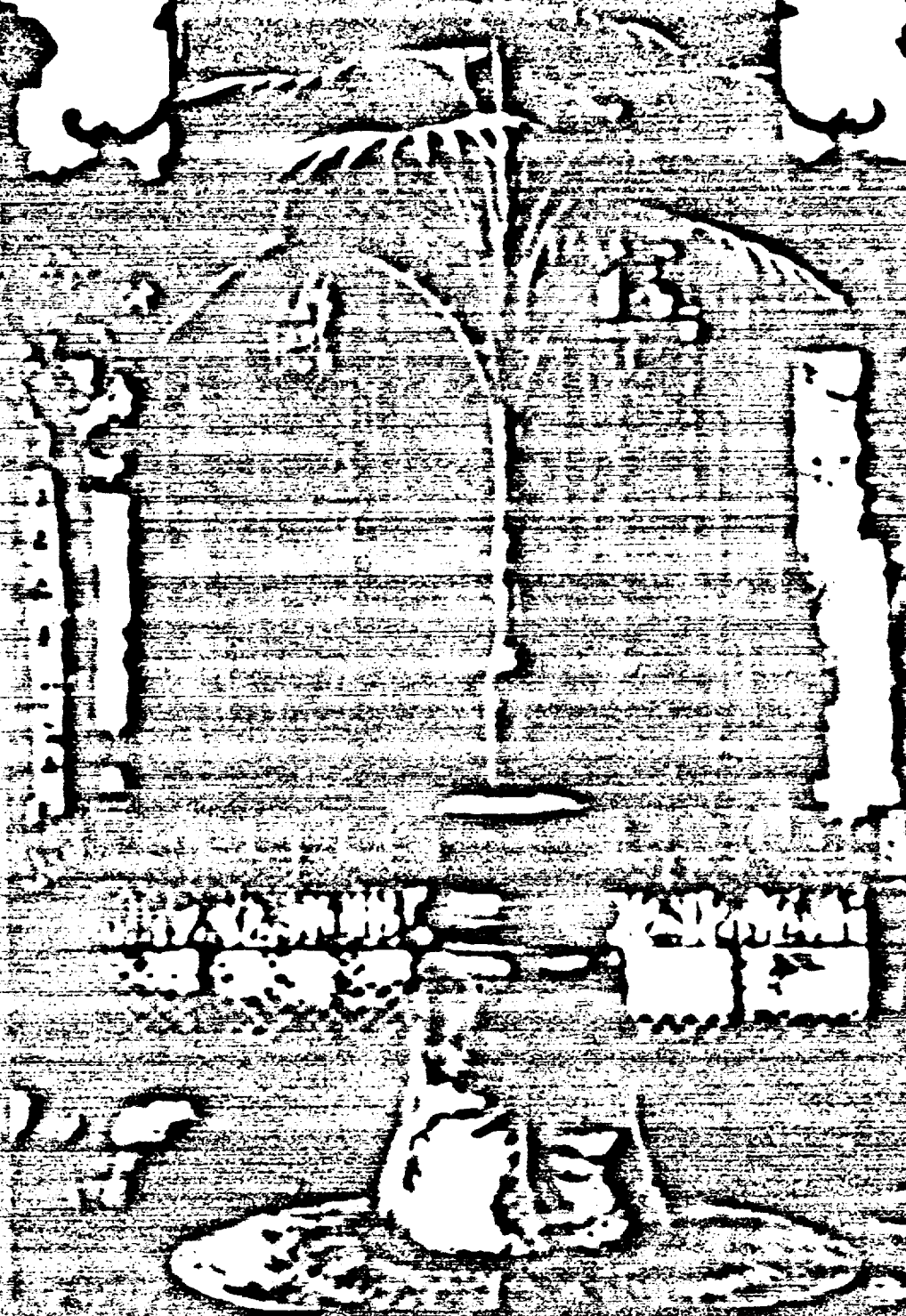
WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Ukrainian government to have this palm presented to the City of Atlanta by Miss Podkopayeva.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA that the Mayor, or her designee is hereby authorized to accept, on behalf of the City, the bronze Mertsalov palm from Miss Liliya Podkopayeva as a representative of the Ukraine, who will be accompanied by Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the City graciously accepts the item as a gesture of good will.

BE IT FINALLY ORDAINED that the Mayor is hereby authorized to have this palm displayed in a prominent place in the City of Atlanta for the enjoyment by its citizens.

C-4



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"ПАЛЬМА МЕРЦАЛОВА"**